BIGFOOT BULLETIN

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TWO CREATURES SIGHTED IN OREGON

JOHN FUHRMANN, Portland, Oregon, writes (July 8, 1969): "Here is an item for the BULLETIN, the first sighting I know of since the Don Cox-Beacon Rock case in this general area of Oregon and Washington. I managed to contact by phone both Mrs. Doris Newton, who lives five miles west of Dallas, Oregon (Dallas is 15 miles west of Salem) and her father, Mr. Ben Chapman, who lives 7 miles south of Dallas. The sighting occured at dusk June 26, 1969. Mrs. Newton was home alone with her baby when she heard the dog barking and went outside in time to see two creatures walking across the field 150 yards away. She said that they were about the same size and looked "awfully big and black". One interesting detail was that neither of them turned and looked at her or the dog which they must have heard. This strikes me as being extremely careless on their part. Since she watched them walk about 100 feet before they disappeared over the crest of a hill, there would have been ample time for someone so inclined to have shot at least one of them if they had picked up a rifle on their way out the door. It's a wonder some irate farmer who had been losing stock to predators hasn't done exactly that sometime in all these years. Perhaps the human-like upright form has always been enough to stop the trigger finger of the most gun-happy farmer or hunter. The next morning Mrs. Newton and her father followed their trails which were large impressions of flattened grass which was knee-high in the field. Mr. Chapman said that there were no clear imprints in the ground because of the thick grass and he couldn't tell the exact length of the tracks except to say that they were big and both sets about the same size. The stride averaged about four feet and the two individuals walked side by side about 3 or 4 feet apart most of the time as they crossed this field which is about 250 yards wide. The Bigfeet had to cross two fences and in both cases they angled toward a point where a section of the fence was down and then went through it single file. They lost the trail when it entered the thick timber which extends all the way to the coast. Mr. Chapman told me that 2 years ago a friend of his and two other men were deer hunting about 2 miles from his home (Chapman's) and came across giant human-like tracks near an abandoned house. In this case, also, the prints went around a fence rather than over it. It appears Bigfoot isn't too fond of fences !"

TWO RECENT SIGHTINGS NEAR OROVILLE, CALIFORNIA

On July 12, 1969, Charles R. Jackson and his son Kevin, 6, were burning trash in their backyard on Cherokee Road near Oroville. They reported that a female creature having "very large breasts" came out of a shed behind their house and fled into the woods. Jackson is reported to have described the creature as being ape-like, covered with grey hair about three inches long, with no hair on the face and palms. It was from 7 to 8 feet tall. The creature looked around and then ran up the hill into

the woods. Jackson and son ran into the house, bolting the door. Sheriff's deputies from Oroville investigated the report. (Credit for information : Ben E. Foster Jr., CHICO ENTERPRISE-RECORD, July 14, 1969 and THE OAKLAND TRIBUNE, July 14, 1969.) (Credit for clipping from CHICO ENTERPRISE-RECORD : Robert L. Behme)

The other creature sighting apparently occured about 10 days earlier near Twain, California, which is on Highway 70, some 60-70 miles northeast of Oroville. Lester Orlinger, 16, son of the owner of a grocery store and postoffice at Twain, reported that he and two girls, returning from a show at Quincy, saw an ape-like creature in the road as they rounded a curve. He swerved to avoid hitting it, stopped the car and got out armed with a rifle to investigate but failed to see it again. Lester said the creature seemed to be crouched down or bent over when he first saw it. He thought he might have hit it with his car but could find no evidence. Lester reported that the two girls were crying after the incident and "what can you do when girls are crying ?" (Credit for information : KLAM-ITY KOURIER, July 22, 1969, which reprinted from OROVILLE MERCURY-REGISTER of July 15, 1969)

RECENT SIGHTINGS NEAR WILDWOOD, TRINITY COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

BEN E. FOSTER JR. of Anderson, California, writes (July 4, 1969) : "We have been thankful for the past few days. We have had extremely good luck. We spent some time in the Shasta-Trinity National Forest around the Yolla Bolla District. We stopped in Wildwood where we got two accounts of sightings. One was very recent. About two weeks ago the Sasquatch paid a visit to the surroundings of the Wildwood Inn. He seemed to be fighting with some of the neighborhood dogs. The noise aroused Bob Kelley and his family. This was about 8:30 P.M., dusk. The Sasquatch threw the dogs some 4 to 5 feet into the air. One dog had saliva over its body but no tooth wounds. Several people came to the scene which scared the Sasquatch and he made his retreat up a fairly steep embankment. I'd like to say at this time there is no doubt in my mind that this was not a bear. The animal or primate was about 5' 11" tall, had dark brown hair, a pale brown face with no hair about it, a flat nose with large nostrils. The tracks were about 14" in length. I didn't see any plain prints, but we saw what looked like several heel and toe prints, but like I said, this was two weeks after the actual sighting. I feel this is true and hope you will put this and the following reports in the BULLETIN. The second account from the Wildwood Inn area occured two years ago. This was in January 1967. Mr. Bob Kelley and his wife were sitting in their house when Mrs. Kelley heard a strange sort of moaning. She said it sounded like a man in pain. At this time she asked Mr. Kelley if he heard it, then they both listened and both heard it. Mr. Kelley looked out the window and saw the thing (Sasquatch) looking in at them. He said it was dark brown with silver-tipped hair, had a flat nose and no hair on the face and hands. The footprints were very faint as the ground in Wildwood is frozen at this time of the year. ... Now the most important account ... Yesterday, July 3, 1969, two boys from the Harrison Gulch Ranger Station found a number of tracks near Fern Glade. Tomorrow we are going to attempt to get casts. This is in no way a hoax because several rangers saw the tracks. We are going to interview the two boys and will send you a recording. Please feel free to use these reports in the BULLETIN."

BEN E. FOSTER JR. and several associates have formed the ANDERSON VALLEY BIGFOOT RESEARCH CENTER with headquarters at Rt.1, Box 1197 Kimberly Road, Anderson, California 96007. Phones :(day) 916-365-3135 (Ben E. Foster Jr.) ; (night) 916-365-1194 (Eldon Brackett). Reports of footprint or creature sightings welcome and encouraged.

On July 12, 1969 John H. Dana and George F. Haas visited Ben E. Foster Jr. in Anderson. With his directions and encouragement we went on to Wildwood and then attempted to find Fern Glade which is 21 miles south of Wildwood. We were unable to contact any witnesses to the recent fight between the Bigfoot and the dogs except one of the dogs and he wasn't talking. However, we did talk at length with a small boy, Mike Cooney, who kindly showed us the spot where the fight took place and pointed out the creature's escape route. He showed us several rather large tufts of hair which had been pulled out of something, either dog or creature, during the scuffle. We collected samples for later examination. We never did find Fern Glade but did have the fantastic luck of finding footprints and hairs on a trail which, according to the map, must be in the immediate vicinity. A detailed report on our findings follows.

HAIRS AND 400 FOOTPRINTS FOUND

On July 14, 1969, John H. Dana of El Cajon, California and George F. Haas found about 400 footprints in the trail leading from West Low Gap to the East Fork of the South Fork of the Trinity River in the Yolla Bolla District of the Shasta-Trinity National Forest in Trinity County, California. The trail, about 1½ to 2 miles long, is clearly marked on the official Forest Service map. Starting from West Low Gap, the first footprints were encountered about ¼ mile down the trail and were followed for approximately ¼ mile. The trail, clearly marked with blazes, is evidently very old since some blazes, especially those on oak trees, are entirely grown over. No recent human passage was evident. The best and clearest prints were seen where the trail surface was covered with 1 to 2 inches of a packed mulch of pine needles and oak leaves. This mulch was crushed and ground into the black humus beneath indicating a great weight, probably 600 to 800 pounds. Dana, weighing 220 pounds and wearing boots 13 inches long, could make hardly any impression in the trail mulch right beside the other prints. Once the creature stepped on a Western Yellow pine cone crushing it as flat as if a car had run over it. Stride was about 36 inches, going downhill, and prints were about 16 inches long. The distance between the line of left footprints and the line of right footprints was about 1 foot, much wider than that in a human trail. Tracks were evidently very fresh, not over a day or two old. Once the creature had stood with both feet side by side evidently having stopped to look around. At two locations small dead trees were found leaning across the trail about 3 to 4 feet above the ground. Footprints led under them indicating that the creature had stooped to go under them just like we did. On the underside of each dead tree hairs were found which had been snagged off the creature's back and caught on half inch long stubs of small branches. Seven hairs were collected which were reddish brown, fine and silky, 1 to 1½ inches long and slightly curly. Similar tracks had been found a few days previously by Ben E. Foster Jr. and associates in and around the Fern Glade area which is in the general vicinity. They may have been made by the same creature.
--George F. Haas, July 17, 1969.

DICK FREY REPORT

One of the most active Bigfoot hunters is Dick Frey, a student at Humboldt State College at Arcata, California. During the past few months he has made almost weekly excursions into Bigfoot country : into the Bluff Creek, Klamath, northern Humboldt County and Del Norte County regions. He has hiked miles on foot and has visited most if not all of the fire lookout stations in the area. He writes (June 12, 1969) : "Four weekends ago I decided to make an excursion up the Cedar Camp Road... Making my way north on Deer Lick Creek, I came across a 'musty' smell, like the smell of 'elk musk'. This odor was encountered in the immediate vicinity of some branches which had been stripped from sapling Douglas fir and piled in mattress-like fashion around some overhanging cliffs. No tracks or other physical evidence was obtained. ... On the trail to Notice Creek, about 2 miles west on this 7-mile trail, I came across three footprints in the snow, about 15 inches long and 9 inches across the ball of the foot. 5 toes were very distinct and there was no arch. There was a definite heel and there were no claw marks. Since it was late in the snow season, the snow had a thick icy crust. The tracks penetrated this crust to a depth of 2 inches. My own boots managed to leave a depression of about ½ inch. I weigh, with pack, about 200 pounds. The area around the tracks is very steep. The tracks led across the patch of snow to a steep incline covered with dense undergrowth. Snow on both sides of the trail had long since melted, and the earth was solid-packed and rocky. No other physical evidence was encountered. On returning to the tracks about 2 hours later (11:30 A.M.) they had almost completely melted. I had no camera, hence no photography was possible."

KLAM-ITY KOURIER'S 'GOOD GUY OF THE WEEK'

"One candidate for our 'Good Guy of the Week' award this week, and we are sure the entire community of Willow Creek joins us in this one, is Jim McClarin who just recently came out to Willow Creek and completed the 'Bigfoot' statue in our roadside rest. Jim did most of the work on the statue during the summer of 1967 but with his many irons in the fire just couldn't manage to complete that last hand and foot plus putting a protective coating of linseed oil over the old until last week. Jim said it might look a little peculiar until the newly sculpted areas begin to age so theymatch the color of the rest of the statue. Anyhow, thanks to Jim McClarin, 'Good Guy of the Week', for a beautiful job -WITHOUT PAY- if you don't think this is a work of art, go look at it for yourselves." From the KLAM-ITY KOURIER, Willow Creek, California, July 9, 1969. (Editor's note :For further information on Jim McClarin and his statue see BEYOND magazine, November 1968, "Student Erects Monument To California's Mysterious Ape-Man Monster" by Ivan Hall. Photographs. Also see the book Strange Monsters And Madmen by Warren Smith,the chapter titled "Monument To A Monster".)

RECENT BOOKS

MORE "THINGS" by Ivan T. Sanderson, Pyramid Books, 1969,75¢. Contains three chapters relating to "Man Things". (Credit : Richard L. Tierney and many others.)

STRANGE MONSTERS AND MADMEN by Warren Smith, Popular Library, 1969, 60¢. Several short chapters on the Yeti, Sasquatch, Bigfoot etc. (Credit : almost everybody !)

RECENT NEWSPAPER AND MAGAZINE ARTICLES RECEIVED

THE SEATTLE TIMES, Seattle, Washington, May 28, 1969. "This May Go Down As Year Of Sasquatch Or Bigfoot" by Don Duncan. Mostly concerns the account of Warren Scott of Seattle who says he was kidnapped by a group of Sasquatches in the British Columbia wilderness in 1961. (Credit : John Green, Dick Grover and Warren Scott).

FISHING AND HUNTING NEWS, Western Washington Edition, Seattle, Washington, May 31, June 7 and June 14, 1969. Three part article, "Abominable Snowman Encountered By Hunters In Washington's Forest" by Art Reda. (Credit : Henry Kowing)

The Agassiz-Harrison-Rosedale THE ADVANCE , Agassiz, B.C., Canada, June 5, 1969. "The Sasquatch Has Come To Merritt" by Ida Makaro. Reprinted from the MERRITT-HERALD, May 21, 1969. (Credit : John Green)

OLD WEST MAGAZINE, Fall 1969. "Our Country's Mysterious Monsters" by J.K. Parrish. (Credit : Russell Gebhart and many others)

CALIFORNIA TRAVELER, Volcano, California, October 1968, No. 33. "There Is A Bigfoot". No author given. (Credit : Fred S. Cook, Editor and Publisher).

THE PROVINCE, Vancouver, B.C., Canada, June 27, 1969. "7 In Search Of Sasquatch". Concerns an expedition by yacht to southeast Alaska where they will concentrate on Chichagof Island which they believe to be "the home base of the Sasquatch". (Credit : Rene Dahinden)

ANDERSON VALLEY PRESS, Anderson, California, July 17, 1969. "Bigfoot Still A'Stomping Says Ben Foster". Concerns the recent activities of Ben E. Foster Jr. and his associates of the ANDERSON VALLEY BIGFOOT RESEARCH CENTER. (Credit : Ben E. Foster Jr.)

THE OREGON JOURNAL , Portland, Oregon, July 4, 1969. "Hairy Ape Search Renewed" by Marge Davenport. (Credit : John Fuhrmann)

The BIGFOOT BULLETIN is a private newsletter sent free only to those actively engaged in Bigfoot research who cooperate with news and information. The editor thanks all those who send in information and regrets he is unable to use all of it in the BULLETIN. It is filed away and put to good use in exchange with other researchers. Confidential information is strictly respected. Especially wanted are first hand reports, newspaper clippings and information regarding books and magazine articles.